

MOTOR VEHICLES AND MOTOR VEHICLE
EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURED ON OR
AFTER JANUARY 1, 1968**§ 12.80 Federal motor vehicle safety
standards.**

(a) *Standards prescribed by the Department of Transportation.* Motor vehicles and motor vehicle equipment manufactured on or after January 1, 1968, offered for sale, or introduction or delivery for introduction in interstate Commerce, or importation into the United States are subject to Federal motor vehicle safety standards ("safety standards") prescribed by the Secretary of Transportation under sections 103 and 119 of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966, as amended (15 U.S.C. 1392, 1407) ("the Act"), and set forth in 49 CFR part 571. A motor vehicle ("vehicle") or item of motor vehicle equipment ("equipment item"), manufactured on or after January 1, 1968, is not permitted entry into the Customs territory of the United States unless (with certain exceptions set forth in paragraph (b) of this section) it is in conformity with applicable safety standards in effect at the time the vehicle or equipment item was manufactured.

(b) *Requirements for entry and release.*

(1) Unless the requirement for filing is waived by the port director as provided for in paragraph (f) of this section, each vehicle or equipment item offered for introduction into the Customs territory of the United States shall be denied entry unless the importer or consignee files with the entry a declaration, in duplicate, which declares or affirms one of the following:

(i) The vehicle or equipment item was manufactured on a date when no applicable safety standards were in effect.

(ii) The vehicle or equipment item conforms to all applicable safety standards (or, the vehicle does not conform solely because readily attachable equipment items which will be attached to the vehicle before it is offered for sale to the first purchaser for purposes other than resale are not attached) and bears a certification label or tag to that effect permanently affixed by the original manufacturer to the vehicle or to the equipment item,

or to the outside of the container in which the equipment item is delivered, in accordance with regulations issued by the Secretary of Transportation (49 CFR parts 555, 567, 568 and 571) under section 114 of the Act (15 U.S.C. 1403).

(iii) The vehicle or equipment item was not manufactured in conformity to all applicable safety standards, but it has been or will be brought into conformity. Within 120 days after entry, or within a period not to exceed 180 days after entry, if additional time is granted by the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration ("Administrator, NHTSA"), the importer or consignee will submit a true and complete statement to the Administrator, NHTSA, identifying the manufacturer, contractor, or other person who has brought the vehicle or equipment item into conformity, describing the exact nature and extent of the work performed, and certifying that the vehicle or equipment item has been brought into conformity, and that the vehicle or equipment item will not be sold or offered for sale until the Administrator, NHTSA, issues an approval letter to the port director stating that the vehicle or equipment item described in the declaration has been brought into conformity with all applicable safety standards.

(iv) The vehicle or equipment item is intended solely for export, and the vehicle or equipment item, and the outside of the container of the equipment item, if any, bears a label or tag to that effect.

(v) The importer or consignee is a nonresident of the United States, is importing the vehicle or equipment item primarily for personal use for a period not exceeding 1 year from the date of entry, will not sell it in the United States during that period, and has stated his passport number and country of issue, if he has a passport, on the declaration.

(vi) The importer or consignee is a member of the armed forces of a foreign country on assignment in the U.S. or is a member of the personnel of a foreign government on assignment in the U.S. or other individual who is within the class of persons for whom

free entry of vehicles has been authorized by the Department of State in accordance with general principles of international law, is importing the vehicle or equipment item for purposes other than resale; and a copy of his official orders, if any, is attached to the declaration (or, if a qualifying member of the personnel of a foreign government on assignment in the U.S., the name of the Embassy to which he is accredited is stated on the declaration).

(vii) The vehicle or equipment item is imported solely for the purpose of show, test, experiment, competition (a vehicle the configuration of which at the time of entry is such that it cannot be licensed for use on the public roads is considered to be imported for the purpose of competition), repair or alteration, and the statement required by 19 CFR 12.80(c)(2) or (c)(3) is attached to the declaration.

(viii) The vehicle was not manufactured primarily for use on the public roads and is not a "motor vehicle" as defined in section 102 of the Act (15 U.S.C. 1391).

(ix) The vehicle is an "incomplete vehicle" as defined in 49 CFR part 568.

(2) A vehicle imported solely for the purpose of test or experiment which is the subject of a declaration filed under paragraph (b)(1)(vii) of this section may be licensed for use on the public roads for a period not to exceed 1 year from the date of importation if use on the public roads is an integral part of the test or experiment. The vehicle may be licensed for use on the public roads for one or more further periods which, when added to the initial 1 year period, shall not exceed a total of 3 years, upon application to and approval by the Administrator, NHTSA.

(c) *Declaration; contents.* (1) Each declaration filed under paragraph (b)(1) of this section shall include the name and address in the United States of the importer or consignee, the date and the entry number (if applicable), the make, model, and engine and body serial numbers, or other identification number (if a vehicle), or a description of the item (if an equipment item), and shall be signed by the importer or consignee.

(2) Each declaration filed under paragraph (b)(1)(vii) of this section which relates to a vehicle or equipment item

reported for the purpose of show, competition, repair, or alteration shall have attached a statement fully describing the use to be made of the vehicle or equipment item and its ultimate disposition.

(3) Each declaration filed under paragraph (b)(1)(vii) of this section which relates to a vehicle imported solely for the purpose of test or experiment shall have attached a statement fully describing the test or experiment, the estimated period of time necessary to use the vehicle on the public roads, and the disposition to be made of the vehicle after completion of the test or experiment.

(4) Any declaration filed under paragraph (b)(1) of this section may, if appropriate, relate to more than one vehicle or equipment item imported on the same entry.

(d) *Declaration; disposition.* The port director shall forward the original of each declaration submitted to him under paragraph (b)(1) of this section as soon as practicable to the Director, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Washington, DC 20590.

(e) *Release under bond.* (1) If a declaration is filed under paragraph (b)(1)(iii) of this section, the entry shall be accepted only if the importer or consignee gives a bond on Customs Form 301, containing the bond conditions set forth in §113.62 of this chapter. An approval letter shall be issued upon approval by the Administrator, NHTSA, of the conformity statement submitted by the importer or consignee as provided for in paragraph (b)(1)(iii) of this section. The approval letter shall be forwarded by the Administrator, NHTSA, to the port director with a copy to the importer or consignee. Upon receipt of the approval letter the port director shall cancel the charge against the bond.

(2) If the approval letter is not received by the port director within 180 days after entry, the port director shall issue a Notice of Redelivery, Customs Form 4647, requiring the redelivery to Customs custody of the vehicle or equipment item. If the vehicle or equipment item is not redelivered to Customs custody or exported under Customs supervision within the period

allowed by the port director in the Notice of Redelivery, liquidated damages shall be assessed in the full amount of a bond if it is single entry bond or if a continuous bond is used, the amount that would have been taken under a single entry bond.

(f) *Waiver of declaration requirements.* The requirement that a declaration be filed under paragraph (b)(1)(i), (b)(1)(ii), or (b)(1)(v) of this section as a condition to the introduction of a vehicle or equipment item into the Customs territory of the United States may be waived by the port director for a United States, Canadian, or Mexican registered vehicle arriving via land borders.

(g) *Vehicle or equipment item introduced by means of a fraudulent or false declaration.* Any person who enters, introduces, attempts to enter or introduce, or aids or abets the entry, introduction, or attempted entry or introduction, of a vehicle or equipment item into the Customs territory of the United States by means of a fraudulent entry declaration, or by means of a false entry declaration made without reasonable cause to believe the truth of the declaration, may incur liabilities under section 592, Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1592).

(h) *Vehicle or equipment item denied entry.* If a vehicle or equipment item is denied entry under the provisions of paragraph (b) of this section, the port director shall refuse to release the vehicle or equipment item for entry into the Customs territory of the United States and shall issue a notice of that refusal to the importer or consignee.

(i) *Disposition of vehicle or equipment item denied entry; redelivery.* A vehicle or equipment item denied entry under paragraph (b) of this section, or redelivered to Customs custody under paragraph (e) of this section, which is not exported under Customs supervision within 90 days from the date of the notice of denial of entry or date of redelivery, shall be disposed of under applicable Customs laws and regulations, except that disposition shall not result in the introduction of the vehicle or equipment item into the Customs

territory of the United States in violation of the Act.

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SAFETY STANDARDS FOR BOATS AND ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT

§ 12.85 Coast Guard boat and associated equipment safety standards.

(a) *Applicability of standards or regulations prescribed by the Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard.* Boats and associated equipment (as hereinafter defined) are subject to U.S. Coast Guard safety regulations or standards when imported or, under certain conditions, brought into the United States after November 1, 1972. Those regulations or standards are prescribed by the Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard, pursuant to sections 5, 7, and 39, Federal Boat Safety Act of 1971 (46 U.S.C. 1454, 1456, 1488), as set forth in 33 CFR parts 181, 183.

(1) The term "boats" includes:

(i) All vessels manufactured or used primarily for noncommercial use.

(ii) All vessels leased, rented, or chartered to another for the latter's noncommercial use.

(iii) All vessels engaged in the carrying of six or fewer passengers (see section 4.80 of this chapter on prohibitions against foreign vessels transporting passengers in the coastwise trade).

(2) For purposes of § 12.85 the term "boat" does not include:

(i) Foreign vessels temporarily using waters subject to U.S. jurisdiction.

(ii) Military or public vessels of the United States, except recreational type public vessels.

(iii) A vessel whose owner is a State or subdivision thereof, which is principally used for governmental purposes, and which is clearly identifiable as such.

(iv) Ships' lifeboats.

(3) The term "associated equipment" means:

(i) Any system, part, or component of a boat as originally manufactured, or a similar part or component manufactured or sold for replacement, repair, or improvement of such system, part, or component (excluding radio equipment).